No. 16,531.

WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1905-TWENTY PAGES.

TWO CENTS.

Moscow Situation, However, Much Improved.

A GUERRILLA WARFARE

NEARLY ALL THE LEADERS AR-RESTED AT ST. PETERSBURG.

Martial Law Has Been Proclaimed at Odessa-Strike is Weakening at Warsaw-Casualties.

MOSCOW, December 27, 6 p.m., via St. Petersburg, December 28.-The backbone of the insurrection is broken and the uprising here is rapidly going to pieces. The revolutionists are able to keep up only a guerilla warfare, but the ease with which they can move small detachments from place to place renders the task of suppressing them slow and tedious.

The Brunnaia quarter has been cleared from the members of the "Drujina," as the fighting organization of the revolutionists is called. They have transferred their operations to East Tverskaia, consisting principally of sniping from the roofs of houses, occasionally throwing a bomb on advancing patrols and making off on the

appearance of artillery. All the troops of the Moscow garrison, including the former disaffected Rostoff grenadiers and the reinforcements which are employed in crushing the revolutionists are still insufficient to thoroughly occupy the territory won, thus enabling the revolutionists to slip into vacated territory as soon as the troops move on. Many of the attacks on patrols are seemingly made out of a pure spirit of bravado, since they are completely, futile from a strategic standpoint. The remnants of the insurrection now lack cohesion or a head.

City Looks Like Battlefield.

The city of Moscow bears the picturesque appearance of a battlefield. Officers are everywhere seen galloping through the streets or being driven about in rapidly moving sleighs, accompanied by escorts of dragoons or Cossacks. The center of the city for the first time today showed signs of life. The stores were re-opened and the inhabitants, who had been cooped up for five days, were venturing out for a breath of fresh air.

The stores playes of the Vistula lines have struck.

The soldiers occasionally have conflicts with agitators. Yesterday they killed four and wounded twelve.

ing at the triumphal arch, bombarding and demolishing an immense barricade near the car stables of the Belgian company, which had been built behind overturned tram cars. Thence slowly pivoting from the arch the columns swept easiward, clearing all the streets off Tverskaia and north of the boulevard which separated the battleground from the center of the city. Barricades were not so numerous in this region as was the case during yesterday's fighting and the troops en-

countered less opposition. A correspondent of the Associated Press accompanied one of the columns for an hour, during which time the soldiers of the "Drujina" nowhere attempted to hold the barricades. After firing a few shots

they invariably scampered off. Destroying Barricades.

Sometimes the artillery fired at a barricade, but usually these defenses were taken without firing a shot. The work of destroying the entanglements and burning the material from which they were constructed was slow. Occasionally when the troops were fired upon from roofs the houses were bombarded, but the occupants had ample time to escape.

The operations of the troops in the Brunnaia district disclosed many interesting traces of yesterday's fighting, which in many matters people are credulous to brought the walls of a hundred houses The Prokhoroff cotton mill, the headquarters of the Drujina and many other houses for the distance of a mile between the boulevard and the triumphal arch were in ruins.

Every street tributary of the Tverskoi as seven being counted within two hundred yards of a single street. These evidently formed the first line of defense, and the network of streets behind were barricaded at intervals.

These barricades were left standing, the troops having strategically made a circuit ists in the rear, compelling the evacuation of the position practically without loss, as the revolutionists were unable to fight the artillery with revolvers, and they possessed few rifles. House after house showed vawning chasms produced by shells.

The spirit shops and cheap lodging houses occupied by the student revolutionists were

the principal sufferers.

Barricades Well Constructed. The barricades, though they could not be defended against artillery, were well constructed of telegraph poles, fences, heavy doors, iron courtyard gates and signs, all interlaced with wire. A lumber yard in the vicinity furnished material for thirty barricades. Red flags were still deflantly floating over some of the barriers, but throughneither "Drujinists" nor soldiers. It was like a deserted field over which the tide of battle had swept.

several times attempted to intercept convoys of ammunition sent from the arsenal to the troops, whose supply of 200 rounds per man was running low. In one case they almost succeeded, after which the escorts of the convoys were dou-

A Bold Exploit. The boldest exploit to the credit of the revolutionists was an attack on the dinner of the 4th Grenadiers, which was being trundled out in the wheeled camp kitchens used in the Russian army. A detachment of the "Drujina," aided by sympathizers in the neighborhood, swooped down on the

corporal's guard forming the escort. The drivers of the wheeled kitchens and the escort made a valiant defense as bullets rattled on the boilers and cauldrons, puncturing a big soup pot. At that juncture a squadron of dragoons galloped up and drove off the assaliants, and the camp kitchens were rescued, but the grenadiers

after volley was exchanged across the The regular troops, in the absence of their officers, were thrown into confusion by the surprise attack, and fired wildly until the officers rushed out of the hotel and led a charge across the square, where-

upon the "Drujina" soldiers hastily de-camped. The regulars thereafter were most nervous. The correspondent, returning later to the Hotel Continental, on the oppo-At midnight the guests of this hotel were routed out of bed, the commander of the troops having sent word that he intended to open with artillery on Hunters' Row, which had been re-occupied by the "Drujina," and that the hotel, being almost in the line of fire, might suffer. The guests therefore were compelled to seek other quarters. The artillery, however, was not

Populace Awful Sufferers.

At this writing, 6 o'clock at night, firing is heard northward of the city, where the troops are understood to have reached Konnyldvor, occupied by a considerable force of "Drujinists." The troops probably will halt for the night, after taking the position.

It is not possible to venture an estimate of the casualties, which, however, are not heavy either in the case of the troops or of the "Drujina."

The populace have been awful sufferers. Crowds have been mowed down by rifle volleys, the fire of machine guns and the grape and shrappel of the artillery. Innocent persons even fell before the bullets of the revolutionists while inspecting barri-

A gentleman had three blooded horses shot by revolutionists from the roof of a house while he was exercising them in the

Nearly All the Leaders Arrested.

ST. PETERSBURG, December 28, 5:20 p.m.-The energetic measures taken by the government have completely overturned the plans of the revolutionists in St. Petersburg. Practically all the leaders have been arrested. The few who are at liberty are in hiding. The police believe they have captured most of the store of rifles and revolvers and those in actual possession of strikers and revolutionists whose lodgings were searched last night. Wherever arms were found their owners were arrested. Nevertheless the leaders from their hiding places still continue to assure their followers that all goes well.

Martial Law at Odessa.

ODESSA, December 28 .- Martial law has been proclaimed in this city. The strike, however, is nearly over.

Warsaw Strikers Weakening.

WARSAW, Russian Poland, December 28.-The general strike is weakening. The shops are open and cabs are circulating in the center of the city. The employes of the factories and street railroads are still on strike. Among the railroads only the em-

APPROPRIATED FUNDS.

Revolutionists Reported Busy in Polish District.

BERLIN, December 28 .- A dispatch to the Lokal Anzelger from Warsaw, dated today, says: "The revolutionists of the district of Wysokie-Mazowieckie, government of Lomzha, have appropriated all the district government's funds. During the night of December 27 eighty armed men occupied the square where the public offices are situated, overpowered several night watchmen and drove off the policemen who hurried to the

revolutionists then blew open the safes of the district treasury and took \$243,-000, of which \$10,000 was in gold, \$80,000 in silver and over \$150,000 in paper. There were no troops in the town."

RUSSIA'S FISCAL CONDITION. Statements of Impending Financial

Ruin Contradicted. Mr. Wilenkin, financial agent of the Russian embassy, today made the following statement:

"The statement about the impending financial ruin of Russia and other damaging assertions receive currency abroad because the highest degree and therefore these rutumbling about the ears of their defenders. | mors easily find credence among persons who have no correct picture of Russia. The holders of Russian securities can feel as safe today as ever. It should be remembered Russia has never had recourse to the curtailment of interest on her debts and will not do so now, and speculators who are purboulevard was stoutly barricaded, as many chasing depreciated securities know this very well. The foreign papers allude to the run upon the Government Savings Bank -that again is a grossly exaggerated state-ment. It is quite true that withdrawals of deposits have been heavy for the last month, but it is perhaps not generally known the total did not exceed \$10,000,000 up to last week. The latest shipment of to an open plain northwest of the city, gold to Berlin, the principal aim of which which enabled them to take the revolutionket, is the best proof that the Russian government possesses more than enough gold to meet all its obligations."

CHANCELLOR HILL DEAD.

University of Georgia Official Died To-

day of Pneumonia. ATHENS, Ga., December 28 .- Walter B. Hill, chancellor of the University of Georgia, died this morning of pneumonia. Mr. Hill had been ill for several weeks. The doctors abandoned hope two days ago, and it was only by the constant use of strychnine, nitroglycerin and oxygen that heart action was maintained yesterday. The end came with-

out pain. Walter Barnard Hill, educator and lawyer, was born in Talbotton, Ga., September 9, out the district the correspondent saw 1851. He was graduated from the University of Georgia in 1870, and from the University Law School in 1871, with the degree of A. M. He practiced law in Macon from During the morning the revolutionists 1871 to 1899, when he became chancellor of the University of Georgia, which position he held since. He was a trustee of Vanderbilt University and a member of the Georgia Bar Association.

FOR FOOT BALL REFORM.

Many College Delegates in Conference at New York.

NEW YORK, December 28 .- Representatives of sixty-eight colleges and universities met here today to revise the rules of foot ball. The aim of the conference, as stated by Chancellor MacCracken of New York University, who called it to order, was to eliminate brutality from the game.

To make such rules effective he proposed that a national intercollegiate foot ball association be formed. President Woodrow Wilson of Princeton, in a letter expressing regret at his inability to attend, urged upon the conference these reforms:

First, that interference in playing be abolished; second, the abolition of paid coaches, and, third, that the number of intercol-



GRAND VIEW OF MOSCOW, SHOWING LOCATION OF KREMLIN.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AMERI-CAN BOARD IN BOSTON.

BOSTON, Mass., December 28. - The The Squadron Will Visit the Azores American board of commissioners for foreign missions, in its ninety-fifth annual report, made public today, deals at length with conditions in Turkey. It states that the political situation in the western Turkey mission, which includes Constantinople, has been favorable, without special occasions for anxiety and uncertainty.

While there has been no little terrorizing in the Salonica field of the European Turkey mission, and a spirit of revolution in parts of Bulgaria, fear of war or of a general massacre of Christians has not been acute. In the Salonica station touring by the missionaries has been handicapped by the insistence upon the part of the government upon sending a large body of troops as a protection to the missionary. The quartering of such a small army upon the people of a town was no small tax in itself, while the constant presence of Turkish troops terrorized the people and drove them away from the missionary and his services.

Educational work in Bulgaria will probably need to be reorganized in the near fu-ture so as to meet more fully the requirements of the Bulgarian pupils and to se-cure recognition from the Turkish govern-The government withholds its apboth the collegiate and theological institute and the girls' boarding school at Samokov. In order to bring these schools up to the government standards money must be ex-pended upon enlarged buildings and more teachers will need to be employed.

Significant Events. One of the significant events of the year was the gift of 200 francs, gold, from Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria for repairs upon the mission church at Sofia.

"The greatest unrest has been in the Van and Bitlis fields, eastern Turkey," the report says, "where bands of revolutionists. organizing in Russia, have attacked Turk-ish villages and clashed with Turkish villages and clashed with Turk-ish troops. Poverty and suffering in these two stations especially have been severe. The missionaries have administered relief funds sent from the United States, England and Germany, and the regular work has gone on with but little permanent interrup-

"The government has thrown many obstacles in the way of missionary travel. Evidently orders have been sent out into the districts from Constantinople to prevent the missionaries from traveling in the country. This has led to annoyance, but has not prevented the prosecution of the outside work. The local officials have, for the most part, been courteous and kindly disposed."

-Unrest in Arabia.

The troubles of the government in Arabia, calling out the reserves and increasing the taxes, have created unrest among all classes. Emigration of Armenians to the United States is a direct hindrance to the work, in that many of the trained teachers and Christian workers are among the number. The conditions of the country have driven a great many of the young men to the United States. Several of the members of the church have suffered imprisonment from the alleged false charges of the Turkish government. Two of these have teen released this year, after more than two years of imprisonment. They report that while in prison they had large audiences to whom they were permit-

YERKES' GAME FIGHT FOR LIFE. New York Capitalist Passed a Comfortable Night.

ted to preach day after day.

NEW YORK, December 28.-Charles T. Yerkes, the capitalist, is showing great vitality in his fight against death at the Waldorf-Astoria, and rallied slightly during last night when it seemed that the end

was near. The period of unconsciousness, dating from Tuesday night, however, continued in the Philippines, where he had charge of early today, and Dr. Loomis and others in immediate attendance held out little hope of other than a fatal termination of the

Illness. Charles E. Yerkes appeared somewhat encouraged by the fact that his father had survived the night. He said: "My father's condition is not so serious was reported. He is resting comfortably now, and we have a glimmering of hope. He is by no means out of danger,

however, and we are still greatly worried."

Mrs. Yerkes, her son and daughter remain constantly with the patient.

Mr. Yerkes' business affairs in London are said to have been recently so arranged that they will not be jeopardized by his illness. Discussing these interests, James Speyer of Speyer & Co. said:

"We knew when Mr. Yerkes came back to this country that he was a very sick man, and probably would never be able to devote more time to the company's affairs. Arrangements were made at once, there-

Arrangements were made at once, therefore, to fill his place, and the company's activities have gone ahead, and will continue to advance along the exact program

originally determined upon.
"Mr. Yerkes has a large financial interest
in the Uuderground Electric Railways Company and is chairman of the board. His interests were never large enough to make him what might be called dominant. and others interested are prepared at any time to take over his holdings. His posi-tion in the company is not such as would leave the company embarrassed in any way by his death."

Russian Captain Tells Experience. SAN FRANCISCO, December 28.—Captain John Overpensky, who was in command of the Russian battleship Poltava in Port Last night a company of "Drujina" soldiers, who are said to be paid 20 cents per day, made a daring incursion into the heart of the city, occupying Okhotnago Riada (Hunters Row), under the walls of the Kremlin, and suddenly opening fire on the infantry and artillery camping in Theater Square. The guard stationed at the Hotel Metropole, where Governor General Doubassoff is quartered, replied, and volley

FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS CRUISE OF SIGSBEE THREE HOTELS BURNED

DOMINICAN TROUBLES WILL NOT | DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT NIAGARA CHANGE THE PROGRAM.

First and May Then Proceed to the Mediterranean.

No change of program for the cruise of the third division of the North Atlantic fleet, consisting of the flagship Brooklyn and the protected cruisers Chattanooga, Tacoma and Galveston, in command of Rear Admiral Sigsbee, is contemplated as a result of the uprising in Santo Domingo. The emphatic announcement from the State Department that the trouble in Santo Domingo is not our affair, unless American citizens are involved, either through danger to life or property, no longer compels the presence in Dominican waters of the entire fleet maintained there during the past season. When the President laid the Dominican matter before the Senate it was announced that the larger ships doing duty around Santo Domingo could be spared, and in accordance with that policy the cruisers Tacoma and Chattanooga are un-der orders to sail from the West Indies in a short time and join the flagship Brooklyn

and the cruiser Galveston at some rendezous to be selected by Admiral Sigsbee. The squadron will visit first the Azores and soon thereafter the President and Secretary Root will reach a conclusion as to the wisdom and expediency of sending some of the warships to the Baltic. If that question is decided in the negative the squadron will proceed from the Azores to the Med-iterranean, touching at Gibraitar, Algiers, Tangler and Vinefranche and other ports in the Mediterranean, after which the Galveston and Chattanooga will take leave of the squadron and proceed through the Suez canal on their way to the far east, where they will be attached to the Asiatic fleet. The Brooklyn, it is intended, shall come directly home, that her officers and crew may be utilized for service on one of the new battleships to be commissioned in the spring. Should it be necessary to send a vessel to the Baltic for any purpose it is not unlikely that the Tracoma would be as not unlikely that the Tacoma would be selected. If United States warships are not needed in the Baltic the Tacoma will make a cruise down the west coast of Africa be-

fore returning home. As soon as she can be commissioned the auxiliary cruiser Dixie will be ordered to Guantanamo, Cuba, carrying a strong ma-rine guard for such service as conditions require. The Dixle will become the flagship of the mosquito squadron, detailed for service in Dominican waters, and the squadron will probably be in command of the senior captain.

Clerical Promotions Announced. Secretary Metcalf of the Department of

commerce and Labor, announced several New Year gifts today in the shape of appointments and promotions affecting the employes of his department. Most of the changes were in the out-of-town branches of the service. The local changes are: Charles S. Donaldson, transferred from Navy Department to bureau of manufac-tures, at \$900 per annum; Miss Alice Smith, reinstated in census office, at \$1,000 per annum; A. H. Coddington, promoted from \$1,000 to \$1,200 per annum, lighthouse board, and H. T. Dysland, promoted from \$900 to \$1,000 per annum, lighthouse board.

Gen. Chaffee in New York.

Lieut. Gen. Chaffee, chief of staff, has gone to New York to keep an engagement to review the 13th Regiment, N. Y. N. G., of Brooklyn, commanded by Col. Austin,

Return of Maj. Taylor.

Major Harry Taylor, Corps of Engineers, has reported to General Mackenzie, chief of engineers at the War Department, having just completed a long term of service has been granted a short leave of absence preliminary to his assignment to duty in this country.

A New Year's Suggestion NEWS FROM HOME.

The best New Year's present you can give any one is a subscription to THE EVENING and SUNDAY STAR, or either. Send it to your Father, Mother, Sister. Brother or Friend who has left this city for residence elsewhere.

The Evening and Sunday Star mailed to any address, postage prepaid, 60 cents a month or \$7.20 a year. The Evening Star, 50 cents a month. The Sunday Star, including the Sunday Magazine, \$1.50 a year. The Saturday Star, \$1.00 a year.

FALLS-TOTAL LOSS \$140,000.

NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y., December 28 .-Three hotels and several other buildings adjacent to them were bady damaged by fire which broke out today in the grocery store of Faxon, Williams & Faxon, in the basement of the old Porter Hotel. The blaze originated in an explosion which aroused the occupants of the hotel. All made their escape in safety, but with the loss of their clothing and other personal effects.

The flames spread through the Porter Hotel to the store of J. & G. Rae, sporting goods, next door, and communicated to the Imperial Hotel, of which the Porter house is a portion, and to the Temperance house, in the rear of the Imperial Hotel. The upper story of the annex was destroyed. The total loss is estimated at \$140,000. When the fire appeared to be beyond control an appeal for aid was sent to Buffalo, but before the engines arrived the local firemen had the situation well in hand.

CACERES TO BE PRESIDENT. Advices Received by the Dominican

Minister. The State Department had another brief dispatch from Santo Domingo under yesterday's date confirming the preceding report to the effect that President Morales

was said to be about fifteen miles west of Santo Domingo City fighting the troops of the cabinet. Mr. Joubert, the Dominican minister here, called upon Secretary Root at the State Department today to talk over Dominican affairs. He had a short cablegram from Senor Tejera, the minister for foreign affairs, announcing that Gen, Caceres, the vice president, who was at Puerta Plata when Morales fled from the capital. was expected to arrive at Santo Domingo City tomorrow and would be immediately inducted into the presidential office.

Mr. Joubert had nothing to indicate that President Morales had been wounded, nor did he think that the fighting reported to have taken place near Jalma Tuesday was serious. He doubted very much whether Morales intended to start another revolution as he must himself realize the futil-ity of any attempt of that kind. It was probable that Morales would wait for a ime to see what effect the upheaval in Santo Domingo would have upon the relaions between that country and the United States. In the minister's opinion the modus vivendi under which Dominican customs revenues are now being collected by Americans appointed by the Dominican president for that purpose, will not be af-fected by Morales' retirement, for the reason that the dominant party in the cabnet still stands strongly committed to the existing arrangement.

MILEAGE CHECKS MAILED.

Hawaii's Delegate Will Receive the

Largest Amount, \$2,315.30. Uncle Sam gave his yearly "hand-out" to members of the House today in the way of mileage allowances. The mileage checks were signed and put in the mail to gladden the hearts of the members in this holiday season. This occasion is eagerly looked forward to by the legislators in both ends of the Capitol, for in a great many cases, if rumor be true, the

those who don't pay their way. The largest check went to the delegate from Hawaii, who received \$2,315.30. The next highest went to Representative Cushman of the state of Washington, who got \$1,412.40. The Texas men received around about \$800 each, and the amounts tapered down as the distances shortened

allowance is in the nature of "velvet" to

The Baltimore representatives were the unluckiest; they got only \$16.80. Still, by judicious economy they can manage to important engineering works, including the construction of fortifications at Manila. He got \$26, which will carry him to La Plata

CASES UNDER CONSIDERATION. Result of Recent Court-Martial at the Navy Yard.

The cases of Paymaster Henry E. Jewett and Passed Assistant Paymaster George A. Deering of the navy are under consideration by Judge Advocate General Diehl preliminary to their submission to the Secretary of the Navy for action. These officers were tried by court-martial convened at the Washington navy yard on charges involving alleged irregularities in their ac-counts. No information regarding the findings of the court in either case will be made public until Secretary Bonaparte

REVEALED BY DEATH.

Pittsburg Man Proves to Be Relative of Lord Beresford.

PITTSBURG, Pa., December 28.-The death of his wife has revealed to an astonish navy. Beresford and his wife for thirtyfive years have lived in a weather-beaten

Charles," said he, "were brothers. My father, through his love for fine horses and turf gambling, died and left us almost nothing. I was compelled to work for a livelihood when I was but a lad, and by an unfortunate marriage, which I contracted in my young manhood, I incurred the displeasure of my wealthy relatives, and was ostracised from their circle. I came to America to begin life and obtained here a divorce from my first wife and after nine-America to begin life and obtained here a divorce from my first wife and after nine-teen years I married again. I occasionally wrote to my relatives in England, but never obtained a scratch of the pen in reply. Ten years ago I visited the old country and called upon my cousin, the admiral, but was received coldly. Nor did he take the trouble to come to see me or even to inquire about o come to see me or even to inquire about

me when he made a trip to the steel mills at Sharon on the occasion of his visit here several months ago." After the funeral of Mrs. Beresford it was learned that out of the meager wages which her husband had earned the faithful wife had laid enough aside in a bank to provide for any contingency that might arise should her husband become ill or in-

ALL ON BOARD LOST.

capacitated for work.

British Bark Driven Ashore on Vancouver Island Rocks.

VICTORIA, B. C., December 28.-The British bark Pass of Melfort, Captain Cougal, from Ancon for Puget sound, drove ashore on the rocks of Vancouver Island a quarter of a mile east of Amphitrite Point Tuesday night and all on board were lost. The vessel was making for the entrance to the straits when the terrific southwest gale drove her to the lee shore on Vancouver Island and the doomed ship drove with terrific force onto the rocks, breaking up soon afterward.

Bodies of the lost seamen are coming

The first body recovered was that of a seaman dressed in oilskins and overalls. Two more were soon afterward seen rolling in the heavy surf, but could not be recovered. A number of ship's buckets, all marked "Pass of Melfort," were found on the beach, and not far away, in a small bay at the extreme end of Amphitrite Point, which marks the westerly entrance to Barkley sound, the ship's barometer, broken boats and the figurehead of the bark came ashore, together with other wreckage. Two spars were visible to watchers from shore, washing about as though held by other submerged wreckage. A torn piece of paper, which seems like part of the log book of Captain Cougal, was found on the beach, with the name "John Houston" on it, and not far away a water-soaked photograph of fifteen seamen and apprentices of the Pass of Melfort, taken at the break of the bark's poop, was

picked up. At midnight last night Capt. Jas. Gauden agent of marine fisheries, received a dispatch from E. Uclulet that everything possible was being done to recover the bodies and to identify, if possible, the bodies that had come ashore. A whistling buoy was recently placed off Amphitrite Point, but disappeared in a gale two weeks ago, and two days before Christmas the government steamer Quadra was

it, but the steamer failed to find the buoy, in a short search, and returned to port.

The Pass of Melfort was a British fourmasted steel bark of 2,346 tons, built in 1891 at Glasgow for Gibson & Clark. She was last seen by the British ship Brodrick Castle, which was passed by the wrecked bark, and Captain Oleson of the Brodrick Castle, who himself had a narrow escape coming into the straits, had expected

to find the lost vessel in port before him. NEW YEAR WELCOME.

Edict of Chicago Officials Limits Time

of Celebration. CHICAGO, December 28.-Whistle-blowing, horn-tooting and revolver-shooting as a celebration of the arrival of the new year will be limited to fifteen minutes Sunday night by Chief of Police Collins. The order was issued yesterday to all police sta-

tions in the city. It prohibits the making of any kind of noise in the vicinity of hospitals. The chief has directed that every person violating his order shall be arrested and placed in a cell for the remainder of the night.

For years many citizens have complained the hospitals unanimously denounce the noise as an outrage.

The complaint was based on statistics showing that the volume of sound from Chicago's 20,000 factories, not to mention ocomotive and steamboat whistles, if concentrated would reach 240,000 miles, or as far as the moon is from the earth. It was supported by the experience of local hos-

thusiasm. WRECK ON LEHIGH VALLEY R. R. Three Killed and Several Persons In-

pitals, where the rest of patients who are critically ill is disturbed by New Year en-

jured in Pennsylvania. MAHANOY CITY, Pa., December 28 .-Two persons were killed and one fatally injured today in a collision between a Lehigh Valley freight train and a Schuylkill Railway Company trolley car on a grade crossing at Girardville, Pa., near here. Two of the dead were Arabian women peddlers from Shenandoah, and Michael Winkle of Ashland was the third. Several other persons were slightly injured

Russell Meiswinkel, weighmaster at Mahanoy Plain, who was reported dead, is still alive, but physicians say he cannot recover. James Murray, a drug clerk, Miss Welsh, a hospital nurse, and Motorman McDonald, were seriously injured. There were only five persons on the car when the freight train struck it.

SERVIA AND BULGARIA.

Proposed Union of Customs Service-Political Significance.

VIENNA, December 28 .- The reports from Belgrade, Servia, to the effect that Servia and Bulgaria are about to establish a customs union are regarded here as important, not only from an economic standpoint, but as possessing far greater political significance.

The step about to be taken is looked upon here as evidence that the Balkan states are mutually binding themselves closer together in order to better be able to resist future political pressure on the part of the governments of western Europe.

LABOR SECRETARY TO RETIRE. Significant Move of Steel Company-Against Union Labor.

Special Correspondence of The Star. PITTSBURG, Pa., December 27.-An event full of significance to union labor and steel circles was the announcement made here yesterday afternoon that the Reished public here that Henry Beresford, an public Iron and Steel Company will on the aged mixer of chemicals in the mills of the first of the new year abolish its office of Crescent Steel Company at Milivale, a labor secretary, which has been filled by Pittsburg suburb, is a first cousin of Lord James H. Nutt, who will retire from the Charles Beresford, high admiral of the Brit- company after having served it and its predecessor for over thirty years. The significance of this move lies in the

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The significance of this move lies in the father of the control of Tennessee Coal and Iron, is to be merged with the United States Steel Corporation. The Republic Steel Company, has hitherto maintained a conciliatory and even sympathetic attitude to a conciliatory and even sympathetic attitude of lies have a conscious today, but is sufficient the control of Tennessee Coal and Iron, is to be merged with the United States Steel Corporation. The Republic Steel Company, has hitherto maintained a conciliatory and even sympathetic attitude of lies have a conscious today, but is sufficient the control of Tennessee Coal and Iron, is to be merged with the United States Steel Corporation. The Republic Steel Company, has hitherto maintained a conciliatory and even sympathetic attitude of lies have a consciou

Weather.

Rain tonight and tomorrow; warmer tonight; fresh south to southeast winds.

PROBING INSURANCE

Former State Commissioner

AT NEW YORK INQUIRY

DECLARED THE WELLS CHARGES ABSOLUTELY FALSE.

Investigation of the Mutual Reserve by the Department in 1899 Taken up Today.

NEW YORK, December 28 .- Louis F. Payn, the former state insurance commissioner, testified before the insurance investigation committee today that the charge made by James D. Wells, former vice president of the Mutual Reserve Life Insurance Company, that \$40,000 had been paid to Mr. Payn by the Mutual Reserve for allowing the company to write its own report of an investigation by the insurance department, was absolutely false in every particular. He said it grew out of the fight between

Mr. Wells and President Burnham.

by the state insurance department in 1899 was again taken up. Mr. Payn said of the charges made by officers and employes that

administration. He said that Mr. Appleton and the actuary of the department drew it up at his (Payn's) suggestion. Mr. Payn employed personal counsel from time to

feel quite satisfied to go there for advice, except in some cases where the law compelled me to do so. There were decisions one way, and next year there would be decisions another way. Then there would be an attorney general who would give an-other decision."

made by former Vice President Wells of the Mutual Reserve Life Insurance Company that \$40,000 had been paid to Mr. Payn by that company for the privilege of writing its own report of an examination by the state department when Mr. Payn

Report Grew Out of a Fight.

the newspapers about that I said I had no comment to make, but I say to you, Mr. Hughes, that it is absolutely false in every particular, and Mr. Burnham and Mr. Wells both testified under oath that it was

"Absolutely none," replied Mr. Payn, "and any man who suggested such a thing to ould have been very fortunate to get

Mr. Payn said that after he refused to admit certain Prussian insurance companies to do business in this state and before all foreign insurance companies were barred from Prussia, the Prussian government had admitted the New York Life Insurance Company and any other company which would comply with its laws. Mr. Payn said his impression is that the Mutual Reserve Life Insurance Company did not ap-

ply for admission to Prussia. President McCurdy of the Mutual Life Insurance Company, Mr. Payn said, told him that he had been trying to adjust the insurance question between Prussia and the United States government and asked Mr. Payn not to interfere. "I told him it was no use to talk to me, as my mind was made up," said Mr. Payn. Mr. Payn said that his report, by which he finally admitted the Prussian companies to New York, was filed before J. Rider Cady reported to him the result of a conversation

HYDE OFF FOR EUROPE.

Sailed from New York for Few Months' Rest.

NEW YORK, December 28 .- James Hazen

few months' rest. I wish to deny emphatically that I am going to leave America to make my home in France. I am all tired out, and I feel the need of a rest." Asked what he thought the result of the

what the result will be or what laws will be passed. As a matter of fact, I am tired of insurance and want to get away from

Has Not Resigned at Request of the Governor. INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., December 28 .-Daniel E. Storms, secretary of state, has

placing his affairs in the hands of a trus-tee a committee that has been examining the records of his office has reported that Mr. Storms did not turn into the state treasury a fee of \$25,000 paid by the Vandalia Railroad Company until several months after it was due; that while the entire sal-ary of the foreign corporations clerk was

Payn on the Stand

Mr. Payn, who was on the stand when the committee adjourned yesterday, was the first witness today. The investigation of the Mutual Reserve

he made up his mind that nothing that President F. A. Burnham or James D. Wells, formerly vice president of the Mutual Reserve Company, said, was worthy of consideration. The Stipulated Premium Law. Mr. Payn was asked about the stipulated premium law which was enacted during his

time, and when asked if he availed himself of the attorney general's office, said: "I don't like to speak disrespectfully of a state officer. My experience with the attorney general's office was that I did not

At this point Mr. Hughes asked Mr. Payn what he had to say concerning the charges

was insurance commissioner.

Mr. Payn replied: "When I was asked by

false. That report grew out of a fight between Burnham and Wells."

"Has there been any payment to you personally, or to any one in your behalf, of any money or fees in connection with this matter?" Mr. Hughes asked.

out of my presence with a head on his Prussian Insurance Companies.

with Mr. McCurdy.

Hyde, former first vice president of the Equitable Life Insurance Society, today sailed for France on the steamer La Lor-"I am going to France," he said, "for a

insurance investigation will be, Mr. Hyde replied:
"Really, I cannot be asked to foretell

the whole business. STORMS IS UNDECIDED.

not yet resigned, and it is not known whether or not he will comply with the demand of Gov. Hanley for his resignation. He today refused to discuss the subject. It is understood that in addition to the situation disclosed by the secretary of state

drawn from the treasury, a less amount was paid him; that an error of \$1,000 had been corrected later and that an appropriation for an extra stenographer was anticipated by Mr. Storms.